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Attorney Docket No.: PORTNZ00401

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Date: December 30, 2005

Signature:



(Laura Shires)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/706,151
Confirmation No.: 7582
Filing Date: November 12, 2003
Inventor(s): Michael R. ROTHROCK
Title: TECHNIQUES FOR SEARCHING FOR BEST MATCHES IN
TABLES OF INFORMATION
Examiner: H. Thai
Group Art Unit: 2161

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated September 16, 2005 for which a response was due on December 16, 2005. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a one-month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to January 16, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the Remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.